

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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JURY CONVICTS JEFFERSON CITY MAN FOR DISTRIBUTING CRACK COCAINE

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a Jefferson City, Mo., man has been convicted by a federal trial jury of distributing crack cocaine.

Jessie Lee Robinson, 37, of Jefferson City, was found guilty of distributing crack cocaine on Oct. 30 and Nov. 13, 2003, in Cole County, Mo., and of possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine on Nov. 26, 2003, in Cole County.

Following the presentation of evidence, the jury deliberated less than half an hour before returning the guilty verdicts to U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey on Aug. 8, 2005, ending a trial that began the same day.

Robinson sold \$50 worth of crack cocaine to a confidential informant on two separate occasions, Graves said, and those transactions were captured on videotape. **Robinson** was arrested on Nov. 26, 2003, following a foot chase by police officers. During that pursuit through several yards in a residential area on East McCarty Street in Jefferson City, Graves said, **Robinson** discarded a large roll of cash and several bags containing a total of 63.32 grams of crack cocaine.

Under federal statutes, **Robinson** could be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in federal prison without parole, up to life in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$6 million. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Lynn. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Jefferson City, Mo., Police Department, MUSTANG (the Mid-Missouri Unified Strike Team and Narcotics Group), and the Missouri State Highway

Patrol.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow